FILED

MAY 20 2014

N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF

SHELLEY RHONDA ROBERTS, R.N. License # 26NR12497400

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("the Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and upon which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Shelley Rhonda Roberts ("Respondent") is a registered professional nurse in the State of New Jersey, and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.
- 2. Respondent was asked to provide documentation of completion of required continuing education for the June 1, 2010 May 31, 2012 licensing renewal period. Respondent supplied documentation of completion of thirty (30) contact hours of continuing education completed on May 17, 2013.
- 3. Respondent indicated on her 2012 renewal application that she would have completed all required continuing education for the 2010-2012 renewal period by May 31, 2012.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's failure to supply documentation of timely completion of the continuing education requirements for the June 1, 2010 – May 31, 2012 renewal period constitutes a violation of <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 13:37-5.3, subjecting respondent to sanctions pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 45:1-21(e) and (h).

Respondent's indication on her 2012 renewal application that she had timely completed continuing education requirements for the June 1, 2010 – May 31, 2012 renewal period and corresponding inability to demonstrate completion, to the satisfaction of the Board, constitutes misrepresentation in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline seeking a reprimand and a civil penalty was entered on November 1, 2014. Copies were served upon Respondent via regular and certified mail. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the thirtieth day following entry unless Respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated findings of fact and conclusions of law by setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Respondent timely responded to the Provisional Order of Discipline by maintaining that her documentation of completion of continuing education was destroyed and that she regretfully could not locate any certificates.

The Board reviewed Respondent's submissions and determined that further proceedings were not necessary and that no material discrepancies had been raised.

The Board was not persuaded that the submitted materials merited further consideration, as Respondent did not dispute the findings of fact or conclusions of law. Board regulations at N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(f) require licensees to maintain documentation of completion of continuing education and produce documentation upon the Board's request. Respondent was unable to do so.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 20th day of May 2014, ORDERED that:

- 1. A public reprimand is hereby imposed for the violation of <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 45:1-21(b).
- 2. A civil penalty in the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) is hereby imposed for the violation of N.J.A.C.13:37-5.3. Payment shall be made by certified check or money order payable to "State of New Jersey," delivered or mailed to George Hebert, Executive Director, State Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Payment shall be made no later than 15 days after the date of filing of this Final Order of Discipline. In the event Respondent fails to make a timely payment, a certificate of debt shall be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:1-24 and the Board may bring such other proceedings as authorized by law.
- 3. The continuing education credits submitted to cure the deficiency of respondent's June 1, 2010 May 31, 2012 continuing education requirements, which bear a completion date of May 17, 2013, may not be used in satisfaction of respondent's continuing education requirements for the June 1, 2012 May 31, 2014 renewal period. Respondent shall complete an additional 30 hours of continuing

education by May 31, 2014 to satisfy the requirements of the June 1, 2012 - May 31, 2014 biennial renewal period.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:

Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APN Board President